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July 8, 2010

Rep. Michael Obuchowski, Chair Joint Fiscal Committee One Baldwin Street Montpelier, Vermont 05633-5301

Dear Rep. Obuchowski,

I am writing to express my strong support for the fee structure as proposed for the e-procurement system.

Currently, we rely on an inefficient, paper-bound procurement system and expend too much effort supporting a manual process that can be automated. Moving to an electronic purchasing system will not only save time and effort for the State, it will reduce the overall cost of procurement by reducing the administrative burden on suppliers. In addition, we hope that by making it easier to participate in the bid process, we'll see increased participation from smaller Vermont-based businesses that find the current system too cumbersome to utilize.

Over the past several years, we have all worked diligently to identify ways that the State can save money. The e-procurement system is a logical next step to trim costs and is consistent with our *Challenges for Change* approach. I'm happy to answer any additional questions the Committee might have.

Sincerely,

Neale F. Lunderville Secretary of Administration